

WASHINGTON, - D. C.

A great deal of fun has been poked at the American baseball umpire, but the trials and terrors of an umpire's life seem to be only fully exemplified in the South Pacific. A Samoan cricket match, according to a London cablegram, which took place at Savaii, resulted in the death of the umpire, who rendered a questionable decision, and ten of the players and spectators. The cricketfield resembled a battlefield. Some enterprising American should introduce football into the Samoan Islands in the interests of peace.

Copper is to be king in the future domain of industry, according to the confident predictions of Old and New World scientists. Electricity is destined to be the motive power of the new century, and copper is needed for electrical transmission. How far this impending industrial revolution has advanced already is shown in the growth in a single decade—from 1890 to 1900—of American copper exports, the increase being from \$2,300,000 to \$33,000,000 in annual value.

The keynote of modern propaganda in respect to methods of control of food adulteration may be given in these words—viz., an honest label! No one wishes to deprive the poor man of his right to use a cheap and wholesome substitute for the more expensive article of food; it would be an unwarranted interference with the rights of both producer and consumer to prohibit the sale of such an article; moreover, it would be inimical to the advance of scientific invention, which has conferred a distinct benefit upon mankind by its production. But it should be sold under its true name and upon its own merits, not as for the article of which it is an imitation or a substitute.

The Philadelphia Saturday Evening Post states that to quicken our commerce, vast schemes are under way, the greatest of them being a canal across the Isthmus, which will save more than 10,000 miles in the trip from New York City to San Francisco, and which will cost, according to one of the estimates, at least \$125,000,000. For land transportation the projects exceed everything in the history of the world. The largest tunnel on earth is now being built through the Alps to open a new route between north and south Europe. It will be twelve and two-fifths miles long, will be completed in five and one-half years, and will cost \$14,000,000. In the United States a great tunnel is to be built under New York City at a cost of \$35,000,000, for the local traffic of that crowded city.

Professor David Starr Jordan, writing on "The Quest for Happiness," in the New York Independent, remarks: Indolence would secure the pleasures of rest without the effort that justifies rest and makes it welcome. "Life drives him hard" who has nothing in all the world to do. The dry rot of ennui, the vague self-disgust of those "who know so ill to deal with time," is the outcome of idleness. It is said that "the very froids weave ropes of sand, rather face pure hell than idleness." It is only where even such poor effort is impossible that absolute misery can be found. The indolent ennui of the hopelessly rich and the indolent misery of the helplessly poor have this much in common. The quest for happiness is become a passive one, waiting for the joy that never comes. But life can never remain passive, and a thousand ills come in through the open door of unresisted temptation.

Teaching ethics to school children by an illustrated lecture is an idea of a Western clergyman, the Rev. Mr. Fairchild, and it was tested in a Boston school the other day. Mr. Fairchild has given the subject four years of study, but he has evolved only one lecture as yet. It is entitled "Once Upon a Time Two Boys Had a Fight," and it is illustrated by stereopticon views taken from life. For its presentation in schools a solar camera is used. The lecture and pictures depict an actual street quarrel, showing when a boy should not fight, and when he is justified in doing so, as in self-defense or in the protection of the weak. The children thoroughly enjoyed it, of course, and the teachers and supervisors appreciated it, but the question of the adoption of the plan has not been decided. It has the approval of such eminent educators as President Hall, of Clark University; Professor Baldwin, of Princeton; Professor Small, of Chicago University, and Professor Ross, of Leland Stanford University.

Where the Soldiers Who Die at Manila Are Buried.



"DITCH OF THE DEAD."

STRANGEST AMONG THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD ARE THE DRUSES OF SYRIA.

Dr. Max Oppenheim, a distinguished European scientist and scholar, recently completed one of the most remarkable journeys ever undertaken in the East. He explored little known and out of the way parts of the Holy Land. He penetrated to Damascus, which is rarely visited, and made careful observations of the life of the people now living in that ancient city.

During his journey Dr. Oppenheim took a multitude of photographs showing the daily life of the people he visited. These have now been developed and printed in the New York Herald and they have excited much interest among scientific men in Germany who have learned of the results of Dr. Oppenheim's journey.

Dr. Oppenheim made his way with a private caravan from the Mediterranean to the Persian Gulf. The attention of the world is fixed upon this wide domain, for here lies the land which Germany, England and Russia are competing with one another to possess by the building of railways. To gain any real information of the people inhabiting this country a man must be not merely an observer, but a linguist as well. He should understand Turkish, Arabic, Syriac and other Oriental tongues, and Dr. Oppenheim was well fitted for his task, after a residence in Egypt of several years.

Landing at Beyrout he gathered his little caravan about him, and worked his way up through the Lebanon Mountains. He found a mixed multitude inhabiting these mountains, so famous for their cedars in Bible times. The Syrians, he found, were Christians, but there were any number of sects, Roman Catholic, Maronites, Jacobites, Greek Catholics and others. He attributes much of the suffering of these people to their divisions and lack of intelligent leaders. The Jesuits and those coming from



A GROUP OF DRUSE WOMEN.

the American mission at Beyrout, says Dr. Oppenheim, seemed to exert the best and deepest influence upon the people. They are not prosperous, and as a result some ten thousand of the men emigrate every year.

Among the women, Dr. Oppenheim says, he found many remarkable for their beauty. Some European influ-

their summer residences. A hotel built on European models was opened here in 1897.

Thence the caravan went to Damascus, the oldest city in the world, and which has been inhabited for thirty-five hundred years. It is mentioned in the Tell Amarna letters found in Egypt, dating from 1500 B. C., and has been inhabited ever since, and no one knows for how long before that time. Here are ruins thousands of years old.

But the houses and life to-day in Damascus are most interesting and



ONE OF THE DRUSES

A DRUSE PRIEST

novel to the traveler from the West. They exhibit a luxury and comfort little dreamed of in Western lands as existing in Damascus to-day. All sorts of persons, says Dr. Oppenheim, are to be encountered on the streets of this ancient town, from the Christian woman in their white garments to the Mo-



DRUSES AT DINNER.

hammed inhabitants of the harem wrapped up to the eyes.

From Damascus Dr. Oppenheim set out with his caravan, consisting of ten persons besides his three camel drivers, two hostlers, two Syrian servants and an Armenian cook, a Bedouin and a pupil of the medical school at Beyrout. He made his way through the wastes of the desert, studying as he went the Druses, whom he had found in the Lebanon district and scattered east of the Jordan River.

These, he thinks, form probably the strangest nation in the world. The women are beautiful, the men are brave and intelligent. Their religion is very curious, being compounded of Mohammedanism mixed with some elements of Christianity. It is hard for any one to say precisely what the Druses do believe, but their life is a peculiarly simple and righteous one,



INNER COURT OF DAMASCUS DWELLING.

ences, especially French and German, are now being brought to bear for the development of agricultural interests and industrial arts, but with no great success as yet. Along the slopes of the Lebanon Mountains many of the wealthy merchants from Beyrout have

Justice is done at any cost, and a high sense of honor is well developed.

Like other Orientals, the Druses sit cross legged on the ground and help themselves at meals from large dishes placed in the centre of the group. They seem to be industrious and satis-

fied, although the dreams of former glories sometimes rouse them to strange flights of patriotic fervor. Lovers of Browning will be glad to learn something about that strange people utilized by him for one of his most dramatic poems.

The Germans assert, and have figures to prove, that the efforts of their railroad to Angora and the district south of it, Koniwah, have stimulated the people to renewed efforts for the acquirement of agricultural wealth. Dr. Oppenheim's trip shows that there is room for similar work all through Syria, and he has great hopes of the time when this country will be traversed by railways running from the Mediterranean Sea to the Persian Gulf.

There is no doubt that the district east of the Jordan River is well adapted to the raising of wheat, and it is only because of the lack of facilities for transportation that this district has not already contributed a large proportion of this cereal to the markets of the Orient.

Driving the Carabao.

The American soldier is equal to all sorts of transportation problems; but the strangest one he has yet had to meet is presented by the ordinary beast of draught in the Philippine Islands, the water-buffalo. This animal is called the carabao in the Philippines, and the name (pronounced caribow) is retained by our soldiers; but the Philippine carabao does not differ greatly from the common buffalo of India, China and other Oriental countries.

R. H. Little, a correspondent of the Chicago Tribune, says that the carabao is slower than a camel and



more obstinate than a mule, and has a hide "like the armor of a battleship." He "has but one hope, but one ambition in life, and that is to lie down in a puddle of water with just his nose and horns sticking out." In doing this he will, if he can, also give a bath to all the supplies loaded on the bull-cart which he is drawing.

Consequently a wild commotion rules along the wagon-train when it approaches a stream which has to be forded. The soldiers, who are walking behind the carts as guards, lay aside their rifles, and begin to belabor each animal and oblige him in three languages—English, Spanish and Tagalog. The Chinese drivers jump off the carts and also pound the poor carabao, yelling in Chinese.

As the middle of the stream is reached the excitement grows. The carabao begins to stretch his neck, and bend his knees, and grunt—sure signs that he intends to lie down.

"Hi there!" yell the soldiers. "Chop-chop! Pronto! Git out of that! Seega, blame you, seega, pronto, hi there!"

Possibly all this may get the carabao over the stream without his lying down, but this is unusual good fortune. To keep him in good trim, the



DRIVING THE CARABAO.

carabao must have a bath every few hours.

Often the desire to bathe will come upon him in the middle of the night, and he will break his rope and start out across country in search of water.

Where the Stale Eggs Go.

By saying stale eggs is meant those that are not strictly fresh or that have been preserved for a very long time. Many of the eggs that belong to this class are used by bakers, not only for the yolks, but for the coloring matter. It is estimated that 40,000,000 are used by calico printers, and another 120,000,000 go to numerous photographic supply establishments, bookbinders, glove manufacturers and leather finishers. This estimate may be exaggerated somewhat, but it gives an idea of the large extent to which such eggs are used.

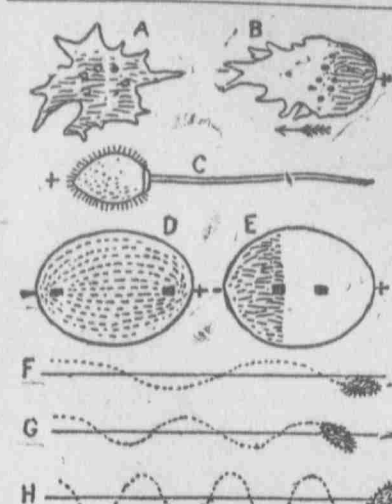
Pneumatic Coffee Pot.

A new appliance for coffee pots and other liquid dispensers has a false bottom, with a valve connecting to the main reservoir, which closes automatically when pressure is applied to an air bulb, connected with the bottom, forcing the liquid through the spout.

SEQUOYAH TO HAVE A MONUMENT.

Honor to the Memory of the Man Who Invented the Cherokee Alphabet.

The people of the Cherokee Indian nation are making preparations to erect a monument to the memory of Sequoyah, distinguished as the man



CHARACTERS IN CHEROKEE ALPHABET.

who reduced to a written language the spoken language of the Cherokees and invented an alphabet which, in appearance, is as unique as the Greek or Persian. Already funds for the monument have been subscribed, and the people are taking it up with much interest. It is proposed to erect the monument on the public square at Tablequah, the capital of the Cherokee nation.

There is no authentic written history of Sequoyah's life. Thomas L. McKinney has contributed some personal reminiscences, written while Sequoyah was alive. Little is known of Sequoyah outside of the work that made him famous. He is known to have come to the West in 1834 or 1835. The house in which he lived is still standing, seven miles north of Sequoyah court house.

It is said that Sequoyah, in the latter years of his life, made several journeys to the far West. In 1843 he visited the Pueblos in New Mexico, where he tried to correlate their language with that of the Cherokees, and lived for several months about fifteen miles southwest of Santa Fe. Upon his return from his last journey in the West he was taken ill and died near the great bend of the Arkansas River, a few miles from the present site of Great Bend, Kan. His death occurred in 1857 or 1858.

There is regularly printed in the Cherokee language a weekly newspaper, the Cherokee Advocate, at Tablequah. The Cherokee typograph is a model of neatness and the printed pages have an attractive appearance, although their contents are hidden beneath apparently indecipherable hieroglyphics. There are more than eighty separate characters in the alphabet. Many Roman letters are used for convenience, but their sound is unlike that given in the English language. D for instance is V, R is E, T is I and W is La.

A Woman's Predicament.

The Chicago Post describes the sad case of a woman who was waiting at the "limits car barn" for an Evanston avenue car. There were plenty of Evanston cars, but her transfer check was good only on the avenue line, and she was determined not to pay another fare.

At last, as night approached, she went to a telephone and called up her husband. She told him the situation—that no Evanston avenue cars seemed to be running, that it was getting dark, and she was afraid. What should she do?

"Why, take an Evanston car," he replied.

"But I shall have to pay another fare," she objected.

"Well, what of it? You don't want to stay there, do you?"

"But I can't," she said, and hesitated.

"Why not?" he asked.

"Because—because, I haven't any money. I just used my last dime in the telephone to call you up."

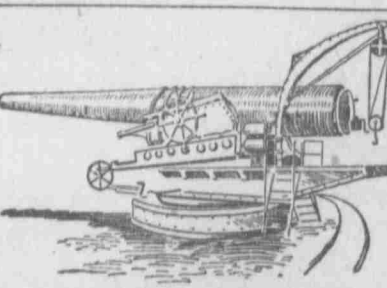
And then she wondered at the laugh which reached her ears over the wire.

Patented an Airship.

In a new airship, designed by a Haitian, a series of fans are mounted in a car partially supported by a gas balloon, the fans being used to drive air through adjustable pipes, which are adapted to turn toward any point to move the ship in the opposite direction.

Has a Range of Twenty Miles.

This big sixteen-inch gun has just been completed at the armory at Watervliet, N. Y. It is the biggest gun of its kind in America. The intention is to mount this majestic piece of ordnance at Sandy Hook, to form a part of the powerful defenses there. Without the carriage it weighs 126 tons. The projectile it uses weighs



THE GREATEST GUN IN AMERICA.

2370 pounds, and it requires 1060 pounds of powder to start it on its flight. Every time the gun is fired it costs \$865. The gun has a range of more than twenty miles, and to attain the maximum range the projectile must rise to a height of nearly five miles.

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